



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

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News Release

Former Matteson resident gets 15 months for immigration visa fraud scheme *Submitted false visa extension applications on behalf of Lithuanians*

CHICAGO — A former Matteson resident man was sentenced Friday to 15 months in federal prison for fraudulently obtaining immigration visa extensions for Lithuanians by claiming that his clients needed to remain in the U.S. for bogus medical reasons. This sentence was the result of an investigation conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Edward Schumann, a 63-year-old naturalized citizen from Lithuania, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Milton I. Shadur to 15 months in prison and fined \$2,000 for fraud and providing false statements.

Schumann admitted in an April plea agreement that between 1996 and 1999 he applied for tourist visa extensions on behalf of his Lithuanian clients by falsely claiming that they had suffered a serious injury during their stay in the U.S. and required medical attention. Schumann, who resided in Matteson, Ill., also admitted to advertising in a Lithuanian newspaper in Chicago that he could help obtain legal visa extensions, knowing full well that he was doing so illegally. Schumann charged his clients approximately \$250 per visa extension and fraudulently obtained more than 500 visa extensions from the former Immigration and Naturalization Service.

“This case demonstrates ICE’s commitment to dismantling and disrupting immigration benefit fraud,” said Special Agent-in-Charge Elissa A. Brown, who heads the ICE Office of Investigations in Chicago. “We work aggressively to restore the integrity of our immigration system by closing the loopholes that criminals exploit to fraudulently obtain immigration benefits.”

Assistant U.S. Attorney Jake Ryan successfully prosecuted this case for the U.S. government.

#ICE#

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.